THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) As a part of the India's Initial National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), studies in regard to the impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change in the Indian context have been made. These studies project future climate scenarios and likely adverse impacts in various sectors such as water resources, agriculture, forests, natural eco-systems, coastal zones, health energy and infrastructure. With a view to enhance and improve our understanding of climate change the Ministry of Environment is currently engaged in the preparation of India's Second National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. A network of 127 institutions has been engaged countrywide belonging to Universities, Research and Development Institutions, autonomous institutions of the government, Non governmental organization and private institutions for studies on various aspects of climate change. These include greenhouse gas emissions of anthropogenic origin from sectors such as Energy, Industry, Agriculture, Forestry and Waste, Assessment and impact of projected climate change on key sectors such as Agriculture, Water, Natural ecosystems, Health, Extreme climate events, etc.

(c) and (d) Government has outlined its strategy for addressing climate change in the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) that was released by the Prime Minister on 30th June 2008. The National Action Plan outlines steps that will enable the country to adapt to climate change and enhance the ecological sustainability of India's development path.

Eight National Missions form the core of the National Action Plan, representing multi-pronged, long term and integrated strategies for achieving key goals in the context of climate change and its challenges.

Coastal environment regulatory framework

1871. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the existing coastal environment regulatory framework;

(b) whether Government proposes to implement a new coastal environmental regulatory framework;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of the proposed framework; and

(e) by when the new framework would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) For the purpose of conserving and protecting the coastal environment, the Government had issued the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification on 19.2.1991.

All development in the Coastal Regulation Zone area are regulated as per the provisions of the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Revamping of Central Pollution Control Board

1872. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to revamp the Central Pollution Control Board;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) in what manner the said Board is going to be revamped?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Central Government has undertaken the task of revamping of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) to further enhance its capacity to meet emerging challenges in the area of environment management in the country. In this regard, Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow has submitted its report to the Government, with multi-dimensional recommendations for strengthening CPCB.

(c) The on-going process of strengthening of CPCB *inter alia* envisages augmentation of technical manpower, strengthening/up-gradation of infrastructure, and enhancing financial support.

Climate change

1873. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has reported that the Himalayan Glacier will disappear by 2035 due to Global Warming and if so, the details thereof and the steps Government proposes to take in order to avert this disaster;

(b) whether it is a fact that U.S. Secretary of Energy, Steven Chu, indicated that Washington may not agree to emission cuts at the UNFCCC meet in Copenhagen next month; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) According to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change, the Himalayan Glaciers are receding faster than in any part of the world and, if the present rate continues, the likelihood of them disappearing by the year 2035 and perhaps sooner is very high if the Earth keeps getting warmer at the current rate.

The National Action Plan on Climate Change includes a national mission on Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem with a view to, *inter alia*, strengthen observation and monitoring of